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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Fiftieth session
Agenda item 11

FURTHER PROMOTION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS
AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, INCLUDING THE QUESTION OF
THE PROGRAMME AND METHODS OF WORK OF THE COMMISSION

Argentina*, Austria, Costa Rica, Czech Republic*, Denmark*, Finland,
Greece*, Hungary, Italy, Lesotho*, Norway*, Peru, Russian Federation,
Sweden*, Switzerland*, Uruguay: draft resolution

Internally displaced persons

The Commission on Human Rights,

Mindful of its responsibility under the Charter of the United Nations to
promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling the relevant norms of international human rights instruments, as
well as of international humanitarian law and international refugee law,

Deeply disturbed by the large and growing number of internally displaced
persons throughout the world and conscious of the serious problem this is
creating for the international community,

Recognizing that internally displaced persons are in need of protection and
of relief assistance and recognizing the need for States and the international
community to explore methods and means better to address the protection and
assistance needs of internally displaced persons,

* In accordance with rule 69, para. 3, of the rules of procedure of the
functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

GE.94-11960 (E)

Conscious of the human rights as well as the humanitarian dimensions of the problem of internally displaced persons and the responsibilities this poses for States and the international community,

Recalling its resolution 1993/95 of 11 March 1993, in which it requested the representative of the Secretary-General to continue his work aimed at a better understanding of the general problems faced by internally displaced persons and their possible long-term solutions,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, in which the World Conference on Human Rights called for a comprehensive approach by the international community with regard to refugees and displaced persons,

Bearing in mind that the General Assembly, in its resolution 48/135, welcoming the decision by the Executive Committee of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to extend, on a case-by-case basis and under specific circumstances, protection and assistance to the internally displaced, encouraged the representative, through dialogue with Governments, to continue his review of the needs for international protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, including his compilation and analysis of existing rules and norms,

Bearing in mind also that in the same resolution the Assembly invited the representative to present suggestions and recommendations with regard to ways and means, including the institutional aspects, of providing effective protection and assistance to internally displaced persons,

Conscious of the need for the United Nations system to gather comprehensive information on the issue of the protection of the human rights of and assistance to internally displaced persons, as well as to coordinate effectively its activities in this regard,

Welcoming the cooperation already established between the representative of the Secretary-General and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and other relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and encourage them to actively pursue their consultations on this issue,

Aware of the need to address the root causes of internal displacement,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons (E/CN.4/1994/44 and Add.1);

2. Commends the representative of the Secretary-General for the activities so far undertaken, despite the limited resources available to him, and for his proposed programme of activities;
3. Welcomes the efforts of the representative to continue raising the level of consciousness about the plight of the internally displaced;
4. Encourages the representative, through dialogue with Governments and all intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, and, in accordance with his mandate, to continue his review of the needs for protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, including his compilation and analysis of existing rules and norms, the root causes of internal displacement, prevention and long-term solutions, taking into account specific situations;
5. Further encourages the representative to continue to pay specific attention in his review to the protection and assistance needs of women and children;
6. Invites the representative to make suggestions and recommendations with regard to ways and means, including the institutional aspects, of providing adequate and effective protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons;
7. Calls upon all Governments to continue to facilitate the activities of the representative, encourages them to give serious consideration to inviting him to visit their countries, so as to enable him to study and analyse more fully the issues involved, and thanks those Governments which have already done so;
8. Also calls upon Governments to give due consideration, in dialogue with the representative, to the recommendations and suggestions made to them by the representative for improving protection and assistance to internally displaced persons;
9. Calls upon relevant Rapporteurs, Working Groups and experts, in accordance with their mandates, to seek information on situations which could lead to internal displacement and to include relevant information and recommendations thereon in their reports to the Commission;
10. Calls upon the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, all regional intergovernmental organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross,

the International Organization for Migration and non-governmental organizations to continue to cooperate with the representative and assist him in fulfilling his mandate;

11. Encourages the representative of the Secretary-General to continue to cooperate and coordinate with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and the International Committee of the Red Cross;

12. Urges concerned United Nations agencies to provide to the representative all necessary information, and calls upon the representative to propose ways and means of setting up a more coherent system of data collection on issues related to the situation and protection of internally displaced persons;

13. Encourages the representative in this respect to seek the contribution of local, national and regional academic and research institutions;

14. Requests the Secretary-General to give all necessary assistance, within existing resources, to his representative to carry out his mandate effectively, in particular with regard to the study and analysis of the legal framework and the development of a comprehensive strategy;

15. Requests the representative of the Secretary-General to continue to submit annual reports on his activities to the Commission on Human Rights and to the General Assembly;

16. Decides to continue its consideration of the question at its fifty-first session.
